

Junior  
EUROVISION  
SHINE BRIGHT • TBILISI  
2017



The 100% Unofficial

# Quick Guide

100% არაოფიციალური  
სწრაფი სახელმძღვანელო

For  
Commentators  
Broadcasters  
Media  
&  
Fans

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შედგება ლიზა ჯეინ ლუისი და სამანტა როსი

## Junior Eurovision: a brief history:

Inspired by a Danish children's show in 2000 that expanded to Scandinavia's *MGP Nordic*. Junior Eurovision was first run in Copenhagen, Denmark in 2003, with Croatia taking home the first JESC trophy. Artists competing must be between the ages of 9 – 14 on the day of the contest.

## Junior Eurovision Table:

Year	Host City & Country	Winning Country	Song	Singer	Runner up
2003	Copenhagen, Denmark	Croatia	Ti si moja prva ljubav	Dino Jelusić	Spain
2004	Lillehammer, Norway	Spain	Antes muerta que sencilla	María Isabel	UK
2005	Hasselt, Belgium	Belarus	My vmeste	Ksenia Sitnik	Spain
2006	Bucharest, Romania	Russia	Vesenniy Jazz	Tolmachevy Sisters	Belarus
2007	Rotterdam, Netherlands	Belarus	S druž'yami	Alexey Zhigalkovich	Armenia
2008	Limassol, Cyprus	Georgia	Bzz	Bzikebi	Ukraine
2009	Kyiv, Ukraine	Netherlands	Clack Clack	Ralf Mackenbach	Armenia/Russia
2010	Minsk, Belarus	Armenia	Mama	Vladimir Arzumanyan	Russia
2011	Yerevan, Armenia	Georgia	Candy Music	CANDY	Netherlands
2012	Amsterdam, Netherlands	Ukraine	Nebo	Anastasiya Petryk	Georgia
2013	Kyiv, Ukraine	Malta	The Start	Gaia Cauchi	Ukraine
2014	Marsa, Malta	Italy	Tu primo grande amore	Vincenzo Cantiello	Bulgaria
2015	Sofia, Bulgaria	Malta	Not My Soul	Destiny Chukunyere	Armenia
2016	Valetta, Malta	Georgia	Mzeo	Mariam Mamadashvili	Armenia
2017	Tbilisi, Georgia				
2018	Minsk, Belarus				

## Differences between JESC and ESC:

The contest has been through many changes in its 15 years, and while there are similarities between the Eurovision Song Contest and Junior Eurovision Song Contest, there are some very distinct differences too:

- Until 2017 the winning country was given the right of first refusal, Junior Eurovision hosts are selected via a bidding system. The first winning country to host the following year was Armenia in 2011. The host city for 2018 was announced prior to this year's contest.
- Supporting vocals may be included on the backing track; they do not need to be performed live. However, all leading vocals must be performed live. Like at Eurovision, instrumentals are all included on the backing track.
- Up to eight performers are allowed on stage at Junior Eurovision, while a maximum of six is permitted at the Eurovision Song Contest.
- Since 2005, all participating countries have received 12 points automatically, making a finishing score of 12 equivalent to a *nul point* result. Fortunately, this has yet to happen.
- The song must be sung in any of the national languages of the country it is representing, although up to 40% of lyrics are allowed in another language.
- Performers must be nationals of the country, or have lived there for at least 2 years.
- The song must last a minimum of 2 minutes 45 seconds; there is no minimum length at the Eurovision Song Contest. Both contests set a maximum song length of three minutes.

## Participation:

Only active member broadcasters of the EBU are permitted to take part and vote in the contest, though the show has been screened in several non-participating countries, and contest participation may be extended to Associate Members.

Participation tends to change dramatically each year. The original Scandinavian broadcasters left the contest in 2006 and revived their regional MGP Nordic competition, which had not been produced since the Junior Eurovision Song Contest began. Other nations have withdrawn due to reasons related to finances or ratings. Out of the thirty-seven countries that have participated at least once, only 2 countries – Belarus & The Netherlands – have competed in every Junior Eurovision so far. Georgia is the most successful nation at the Junior Eurovision Song Contest with three wins and one 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Belarus currently have two victories and one 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and Malta have two wins in the bank as well.

## 2017 Host City: Tbilisi, Georgia

- Founded by King Vakhtang I Gorgasali of Georgia in the year 428 (although there has been evidence of human settlement in the area dating from 4000 BC)
- Declared Georgia's capital city in 1122
- Population: 1.5 million (out of Georgia's total population of 3.7 million)
- Mayor: David Narmania
- The name comes from the old Georgian word T'bilisi (თბილისი) which means 'warm location' in reference to the city's sulphuric hot springs.
- For the past 800 years the territory of Tbilisi has been under Mongol, Iranian, a 4 year term of independence between 1917-1922, and then Soviet control. Georgia became an independent nation again in December 1991.
- The iconic Georgian alphabet is unique to the country; there are 3 different (and beautiful) scripts. Mkhedruli (მხედრული) is what makes up modern Georgian, with Asomtavruli and Nuskhuri being used only in ceremonial religious texts and iconography.
- Tbilisi is twinned with 4 former JESC host cities; Yerevan, Kyiv, Minsk & Sofia

## 2017 Venue: The Olympic Sports Palace

The venue was built in 2015 for the 2015 European Youth Summer Olympic Festival. It was opened on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2015 by Georgia's Prime Minister Irakli Garibashvili, the complex features two halls for sports events. As an arts venue, it is capable of holding an audience of 4,000. Originally GPB had announced the Tbilisi Palace of Sports as the venue, however the Olympic Sports Palace was deemed more suitable so the contest was moved.

## 2017 Hosts: Helen Kalandadze Lizi Japaridze

**Helen Kalandadze** is an accomplished singer, music producer, and youth music school director from Tbilisi. She appeared on the Eurovision stage in 2010, where she sang backup for Sopho Nizharadze's '*Shine*'. In 2009, she took part in the show '*Star Academy*', and was the 2013 winner of the Georgian edition of '*Your Face Sounds Familiar*'.

**Lizi Japaridze**, better known to Junior Eurovision fans as '**Lizi Pop**', was Georgia's representative at Junior Eurovision 2014 with her song '*Happy Day*'. At only thirteen years of age, she will be the youngest Junior Eurovision host ever.

## Voting

There are, generally, no set voting parameters at Junior Eurovision and the process changes most years. Traditionally all Eurovision events have been judged using a combination of jury and/or public televoting, however this year sees the first time that online voting will be used at any of the Eurovision family of events. There will still be a jury vote, which will be combined with the online vote to produce a winner.

There will be a short clip of the song from the rehearsal on stage uploaded to the official website: [www.junioreurovision.tv](http://www.junioreurovision.tv) these will be uploaded on the Friday before the contest. Viewers can vote for 3,4 or 5 countries when the voting opens and this time voters can vote for their home country. Voting will close before the live show on Sunday and will then re-open during the show for a further 15 minutes of voting.

The new style of voting announcement, which was introduced at the Eurovision Song Contest in Stockholm 2016, will continue with the spokesperson announcing the results from each countries jury in the usual 1-8, 10 & 12 point Eurovision style. Then the results from the online vote will be combined together and then added to the scoreboard one country at a time, this means it will not be clear who the winner is until very late in the score announcement, last year it came down to the very last one.

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist (Age)	<b>Ana Kodra (10)</b>
Title (Albanian)	<b>Mos ma prekni pemën</b>
Title (English)	<b>Do Not Touch My Tree</b>
Language	Albanian/English
Composers	Kristi Popa & Jordo Papingji

Artist Profile	Ana is no stranger to singing competition and seems to take them all in her stride. She was a finalist on 'Tu Si Que Vales' in 2015 and also competed in 'Gjeniu I Vogel' in 2016. Most recently she came 1 <sup>st</sup> at the International Childrens Festival 'Tra La La' in 2017.
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Song Description	Mos ma prekni pemën taps into the current appetite for world-sound music at Eurovision. Starting as a stripped back piano/vocal combination the song builds into an ethnic beat
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Selection Process	Sixteen acts competed in Junior Fest, the show was televised and the winner decided on by a jury panel.
Date Announced	14 <sup>th</sup> October

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest History

Debut	2012
Years Competed	2012, 2015, 2016
No. of JESC (incl 2017)	4
Best Position	5 <sup>th</sup> (2015)
Finishing Position 2016	13 <sup>th</sup>
Artist & Song 2016	Klesta Qehaja / Besoj
Host Venue	-

## Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist/Song	Lindita / World
Finishing Position	NQ

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist (Age)	<b>Misha (9)</b>
Title	<b>Boomerang</b>
Language	Armenian/English
Composers	Vahram Petrosyan, Avet Barseghyan, David Tserunyan & Artur Aghekyan

Artist Profile	Michael Grigoryan who performs under his stage name Misha is the youngest of this year's artists. Misha was born in Stepanakert, which is in the Armenia/Azeri disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh. Misha began singing at the tender age of 4. In 2016, he took part in 'New Wave Junior', coming in second place overall. In May of this year he appeared at the 'Aurora Prize for Awakening Humanity' ceremony singing <i>Ari im sokhak</i> a famous Armenian lullaby.
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Song Description	A mid-tempo power song with a driving snare drum rhythm which pushes the song forward and a strong vocal melody line rising above the backing track. Predominantly in Armenian but with a few lines of English in the lyrics sheet too.
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Selection Process	Internal Selection
Date Announced	Artist Announcement: 18 <sup>th</sup> July Song Reveal: 23 <sup>rd</sup> October

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest History

Debut	2007
Years Competed	2007 – present
No. of JESC (incl 2017)	11
Best Position	1 <sup>st</sup> (2010)
Finishing Position 2016	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Artist & Song 2016	Anahit & Mary / Tarber
Host Venue	Yerevan 2011

## Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist/Song	Artsvik / Fly with Me
Finishing Position	18 <sup>th</sup>

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist (Age)	<b>Isabella Clarke (13)</b>
Title	<b>Speak Up</b>
Language	English
Composers	Toby Chew Lee, Cameron Nacson, Chloe Papandrea & Jess Porfiri

Artist Profile	Isabella's parents first noticed that she could sing when, at age 9, they would hear the melodies of Beyoncé coming from the shower! Her mum signed her up with a vocal coach and singing quickly became her new life focus. In the four years since, Isabella has taken part in many singing competitions and achieved the role of principal vocalist for the 'Victorian State Schools Spectacular'. Beyond singing she loves food and Australian comedies like 'Kath & Kim'.
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Song Description	This is power pop at its most fun! The songs message is to stand up for what's right no matter what your age, and we have a classic key change for the last chorus! The video was shot in one continuous take at a school in Melbourne and features many of Isabella's friends and classmates.
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Selection Process	Internal Selection
Date Announced	Artist Announcement: 10 <sup>th</sup> September Song Reveal: 8 <sup>th</sup> October

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest History

Debut	2015
Years Competed	2015 - present
No. of JESC (incl 2017)	3
Best Position	5 <sup>th</sup> (2016)
Finishing Position 2016	5 <sup>th</sup>
Artist & Song 2016	Alexa Curtis / We Are
Host Venue	-

## Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist/Song	Isaiah Firebrace / Don't Come Easy
Finishing Position	9 <sup>th</sup>

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist (Age)	<b>Helena Meraai (14)</b>
Title (Russian)	<b>Ya samaya</b>
Title (English)	<b>I Am the One</b>
Language	Russian
Composers	Rita Dakota & Helena Meraai

Artist Profile	Helena is from Minsk (our host city for JESC 2018) her mum is Belarusian and her dad is from Syria. Helena has almost grown up on a stage, she began to sing when she was 6 years old and also plays the piano. In 2016 Helena was coached by ESC winner Dima Bilan as she competed in 'The Voice Kids Russia', she also took part in 'New Wave Junior' in Russia finishing as a joint victor as part of 'Trio EV'YA'.
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Song Description	Middle-Eastern Ballad, Drum 'n Bass, R&B & House are just some of the music styles that this fusion piece offers. It's definitely on the mature end of the JESC spectrum but with online voting at this year's contest that may see this song do very well. Helena's vocal performance is very strong and she shows both power and control in her voice throughout the song.
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Selection Process	National Final: Ten acts competed for the ticket to Georgia, with a 50/50 Jury/Public vote to decide the winner.
Date Announced	25th August

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest History

Debut	2003
Years Competed	2003 – present
No. of JESC (incl 2017)	15
Best Position	1 <sup>st</sup> (2005 & 2007)
Finishing Position 2016	7 <sup>th</sup>
Artist & Song 2016	Alexander Minyonok / Musyka moi h pobed
Host Venue	Minsk 2010

## Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist/Song	NAVI / Historia majho žyccia
Finishing Position	17 <sup>th</sup>



## Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist (Age)	<b>Nicole Nicolaou (13)</b>
Title	<b>I Wanna Be a Star</b>
Language	Greek/English
Composers	Constantinos Christoforou

Artist Profile	Limassol native Nicole's first love is art, she began drawing at the age of four and is never far away from a canvas. Four years ago she began singing lessons and has also learned to play piano and has never looked back. She won the 6 <sup>th</sup> Annual Talent Show organised by 'Limassol Theatre Art School' in 2016. Nicole is also a fine linguist, she speaks Greek, English and Russian and is just beginning to learn French.
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Song Description	If 'MedPop' was a genre then this would fit right into it! Absolute classic pop with just a hint of that Cypriot/Greek flavour. The lyrics are of self-belief and self-empowerment to achieve your dreams, however they definitely push the 60/40 language rule.
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Selection Process	Internal Selection
Date Announced	Artist Announcement: 15 <sup>th</sup> September Song Reveal: 6 <sup>th</sup> October

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest History

Debut	2003
Years Competed	2003-2004, 2006-2009, 2014, 2016
No. of JESC (incl 2017)	9
Best Position	8 <sup>th</sup> (2004 & 2006)
Finishing Position 2016	16 <sup>th</sup>
Artist & Song 2016	George Michaelides / Dance Floor
Host Venue	Limassol 2008

## Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist/Song	Hovig / Gravity
Finishing Position	21 <sup>st</sup>

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist (Age)	<b>Grigol Kipshidze (12)</b>
Title (Georgian)	<b>Voice of the Heart</b>
Title (English)	<b>Voice of the Heart</b>
Language	Georgian
Composers	Giga Kukhianidze & Temo Sajaia

Artist Profile	There's sure to be a lot of love in the hall for the home favourite Grigol. Grigol studied at the National Centre for Folklore from 2011 to 2015, and in 2014 he was given a place at the city's Vocal Academy. In his singing career, Grigol is a veteran of musical and singing competitions, the biggest of his career so far being 'The X-Factor Georgia', in which he made it to the final. In October Grigol travelled to Switzerland to compete in 'Star's Voices Grand Prix' where he triumphed in first place with his cover of Stevie Wonder's 'Superstitious'.
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Song Description	It would be easy to say that this song is dated and old-fashioned, but it's more than that. It throws back to the 90's style ballad but still manages to be contemporary at the same time; think Bruno Mars and Olly Murs! This soft ballad gives Grigol a chance to show off some vocal gymnastics and hit some notes that are sure to impress both jury and audience alike.
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Selection Process	Internal Selection
Date Announced	Artist Announcement: 8 <sup>th</sup> September Song Reveal:

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest History

Debut	2007
Years Competed	2007 – present
No. of JESC (incl 2017)	11
Best Position	1 <sup>st</sup> (2006, 2011 & 2016)
Finishing Position 2016	1 <sup>st</sup>
Artist & Song 2016	Mariam Mamadashvili / Mzeo
Host Venue	Tbilisi 2017

## Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist/Song	Tamara Gachechiladze / Keep the Faith
Finishing Position	NQ

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist (Age)	<b>Muireann McDonnell</b>
Title (Irish)	<b>Súile Glasa</b>
Title (English)	<b>Green Eyes</b>
Language	Irish
Composers	James McGuire, Robert McGuire, Cian Boylan, Muireann McDonnell

Artist Profile	Muireann is 11 years old but she'll turn 12 the day after the contest! She is a student of music, studying piano, guitar and vocal. Muireanne is from the small coastal town of Skerries, just north of Dublin where she lives with her family which includes three brothers and a dog called Agnes. When she's not writing her own songs and performing in concerts and event in Ireland you might find Muireann on the (Gaelic) football pitch as she plays with the Skerries Harps football team.
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Song Description	Muireann's song is a mid-tempo, contemporary, guitar-lead piece of Celtic music. The vocals are soft and ethereal as we've come to expect from Ireland. The song is quite different to many of the pop numbers in the show, however running order will be crucial to this songs success.
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Selection Process	National Final: <i>Junior Eurovision Éire</i> was a multi-week selection process, where thirty-two acts were winnowed down to the winner, selected entirely by a jury of previous Irish Eurovision entrants.
Date Announced	19 <sup>th</sup> November (NF result leaked on 10 <sup>th</sup> November)

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest History

Debut	2015
Years Competed	2015 - present
No. of JESC (incl 2017)	3
Best Position	10 <sup>th</sup>
Finishing Position 2016	10 <sup>th</sup>
Artist & Song 2016	Zena Donnelly / Bríce Ar Bhríce
Host Venue	-

## Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist/Song	Brendan Murray / Dying to Try
Finishing Position	NQ

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist (Age)	<b>Maria Iside Fiore (13)</b>
Title (Italian)	<b>Scelgo</b>
Title (English)	<b>My Choice</b>
Language	Italian/English
Composers	Stefano Rigamonti, Marco Iardella, Stefano Rigamonti, Fabrizio Palaferri & Maria Iside Fiore

Artist Profile	Born in Carrara on the Tuscan coast, at 4 years old Maria Iside started dancing in the 'Danzabilmente' group, which promotes the integration of disabilities through the dance. In 2015 she stepped out from her schools choir and began singing solo and taking part in several talent shows and contests at both locally and nationally. Last year she was a finalist in the national contest 'Cantagiorno' Earlier this year Maria Iside qualified for the Semi-Final of <i>Cantagiorno</i> and made her debut as an actress in a theatre production.
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Song Description	There is something so very distinctive about contemporary Italian music and this mid-tempo power ballad fits right into it with its driving drums and strong vocal. Members of <i>Danzabilmente</i> can be seen in the song's official video.
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Selection Process	Internal Selection
Date Announced	4 <sup>th</sup> October

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest History

Debut	2014
Years Competed	2014 – present
No. of JESC (incl 2017)	4
Best Position	1 <sup>st</sup> (2014)
Finishing Position 2016	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Artist & Song 2016	Fiamma Boccia / Carra Mama – Dear Mom
Host Venue	-

## Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist/Song	Francesco Gabbani / Occidentalis Karma
Finishing Position	6 <sup>th</sup>

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist (Age)	<b>Mina Blažev (14)</b>
Title	<b>Dancing Through Life</b>
Language	Macedonian/English
Composers	Aleksandar Masevski

Artist Profile	Mina is from the Macedonian capital city of Skopje and has enjoyed music and singing from a very early age, she now attends classes at the 'Zvezdicki Music Academy'. Her biggest achievement was winning the special Pearl Award at the 'Ezerski Biseri International Music Festiva'l earlier this year however she has won many awards at national and international music competitions including 7 first prizes. Mina also took part in a talent show called 'Pink Stars' which is very popular in the Balkan region.
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Song Description	Mina looks and sounds like a young Britney Spears and brings that American style vocal to this mid-tempo pop song. However there is still a sense of the Balkan-style in the feel of the song.
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Selection Process	Internal Selection
Date Announced	Artist Announcement: 8 <sup>th</sup> September Song Reveal: 8 <sup>th</sup> October

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest History

Debut	2003
Years Competed	2003-2011, 2013, 2015 – present
No. of JESC (incl 2017)	13
Best Position	5 <sup>th</sup> (2007 & 2008)
Finishing Position 2016	12 <sup>th</sup>
Artist & Song 2016	Martija Stanojkovic / Ljubovta ne void
Host Venue	-

## Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist/Song	Jana Burcheska / Dance Alone
Finishing Position	NQ

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist	<b>Gianluca Cilia (10)</b>
Title (Maltese)	<b>Dawra Tond</b>
Title (English)	<b>Turn Around</b>
Language	Maltese/English
Composers	Dominic Cini, Emil Calleja Bayliss

Artist Profile	Lego-enthusiast Gianluca started singing at the age of 6 and currently takes singing and music theory lessons at the ' <i>Harmonic Ensemble</i> '. Gianluca won his first major festival in 2015 at ' <i>Oltreoceano</i> ' in Palermo, Italy. A year later he earned the right to represent Malta in an international singing festival in Romania, where he finished third with his original song ' <i>Mamma lo canto per te</i> '. took part and ultimately won the first edition of ' <i>Arpeggio</i> ', held in Malta.
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Song Description	Fun! That's the best word to describe this song. It's retro pop at its most innocent and Gianluca has all the chutzpah to deliver it in his inimitable cheeky way. He's a 10-year-old Maltese Cee-Lo Green and with Malta being one of the power-houses of Junior Eurovision, this is sure to get the audience dancing!
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Selection Process	National Final: To select Malta's representative, a ten-singer final was held, with the decision left in the hands of public televoters.
Date Announced	Artist Selection: July 1 Song Reveal: September 29

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest History

Debut	2003
Years Competed	2003-2010, 2013 – present
No. of JESC (incl 2017)	13
Best Position	1 <sup>st</sup> (2013 & 2015)
Finishing Position 2016	6 <sup>th</sup>
Artist & Song 2016	Christina Magrin / Parachute
Host Venue	Marsa 2014, Valetta 2016

## Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist/Song	Claudia Faniello / Breathlessly
Finishing Position	NQ

# THE NETHERLANDS

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist (Age)	<b>Fource: Max (14) Jannes (14) Niels (12) Ian (13)</b>
Title	<b>Love Me</b>
Language	Dutch/English
Composers	Stas Swaczyna & Joost Griffioen

Artist Profile	This four-piece boyband are set to bring some variety to the show this year as all but two countries have sent solo artists. The band was formed after auditions for 'Junior Songfestival'. The name was then chosen by the public on social media and represents the four members and their combined strength. Music competitions are not new to any of the members, they have all been singing since they were small children and now combine their singing and dance experience to form this group.
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Song Description	In the official video we see the boys dancing their way through Amsterdam's streets and canals to this mid-tempo pop song in which they ask the girls to 'Love Me'.
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Selection Process	National Final: AVROTROS held its <i>Junior Songfestival</i> over the course of three weeks. Three acts competed in each semifinal, with one progressing to the Final each week. After the addition of a Wildcard, the winning song was selected by a 100% jury decision.
Date Announced	Artist Selection: 16 <sup>th</sup> September Song Reveal: 6 <sup>th</sup> October

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest History

Debut	2003
Years Competed	2003 – present
No. of JESC (incl 2017)	15
Best Position	1 <sup>st</sup> (2009)
Finishing Position 2016	8 <sup>th</sup>
Artist & Song 2016	Kisses / Kisses & Dancin'
Host Venue	Rotterdam 2007, Amsterdam 2012

## Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist/Song	O'G3NE / Lights and Shadows
Finishing Position	11 <sup>th</sup>

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist (Age)	<b>Alicja Rega (14)</b>
Title (Polish)	<b>Mój dom</b>
Title (English)	<b>My House</b>
Language	Polish
Composers	Marek Kościkiewicz

Artist Profile	Alicja Rega is from the tiny village of Łysa Góra, in the Polish countryside. In 2010 Alicja began singing at the 'Centre for Vocal Art' in Rzeszow where she also takes guitar and piano lessons. Like many of our artists this year Alicja is no stranger to singing competitions, taking part in many musical festivals both in Poland and around the world. She also took part in the first ever edition of 'The Little Giants', a Polish talent show in which she was selected as the best vocalist. As well as competitions, Alicja has also recorded multiple songs in aid of charity.
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Song Description	Not dissimilar to their ESC 2017 song, this is a contemporary ballad which Alicja delivers with ease using her powerful vocals to emote and fill the stage. As always for this type of song, running order will be key to its success.
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Selection Process	National Final: 50% Jury / 50% Public
Date Announced	1 <sup>st</sup> October

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest History

Debut	2003
Years Competed	2003-2004, 2016 – present
No. of JESC (incl 2017)	4
Best Position	11 <sup>th</sup>
Finishing Position 2016	11 <sup>th</sup>
Artist & Song 2016	Olivia Wiecezorek / Nie zapomnij
Host Venue	-

## Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist/Song	Kasia Moś / Flashlight
Finishing Position	22nd



## Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist (Age)	<b>Mariana Venâncio (11)</b>
Title	<b>Youtuber</b>
Language	Portuguese
Composers	João Cabrita & Mariana Andrade

Artist Profile	At the age of eight, musicals enthusiast Mariana joined the 'EDSAE Musical Theater School' in Lisbon where she joined a new project called the 'Young Actors Company' and straight after returning from Tbilisi she will be featured in a new show in Lisbon's 'Teatro Turim'. Mariana also enjoys languages and has been studying English at the British Council for two years. Mariana's other passion is alpine skiing which she began at four years old.
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Song Description	After a 10 year absence Portugal make a welcome return to JESC following their win at ESC back in May. This song is a mid-tempo pop song with a strong and classic Bosa Nova beat & rhythm guitar line underpinning Mariana's light vocal style.
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Selection Process	Song: Internal Selection Artist: National Final: 50% Jury / 50% Public
Date Announced	Song: 29 <sup>th</sup> September / Artist: 5 <sup>th</sup> October

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest History

Debut	2006
Years Competed	2006-2007, 2017
No. of JESC (incl 2017)	3
Best Position	14 <sup>th</sup> (2006)
Finishing Position 2016	-
Artist & Song 2016	-
Host Venue	-

## Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist/Song	Salvador Sobral / Amar Pelos Dois
Finishing Position	1st

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist (Age)	<b>Polina Bogusevich (14)</b>
Title (Russian)	<b>Krylya</b>
Title (English)	<b>Wings</b>
Language	Russian & English
Composers	Polina Bogusevich

Artist Profile	Polina is from the Russian capital city Moscow. In 2014, she took part in both 'New Wave Junior' and 'The Voice Kids'. In The Voice Kids, her mentor was Dima Bilan, who won the Eurovision Song Contest in 2008. In New Wave Junior, she came second. Beyond competing in the contest, Polina is looking forward to gaining new performance experiences at JESC.
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Song Description	A mid-tempo power ballad which Polina delivers with a vocal maturity much more advanced than her years. The video is a contemporary dance piece with more than a hint of Sia in its makeup. Whilst this song is overall very strong, the English section is quite weak and in reality does not make sense.
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Selection Process	National Final: Twenty-one acts performed, with the winner being chosen by a 50/50, jury/public internet vote.
Date Announced	4 <sup>th</sup> June

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest History

Debut	2005
Years Competed	2005 – present
No. of JESC (incl 2017)	13
Best Position	1 <sup>st</sup> (2006)
Finishing Position 2016	4 <sup>th</sup>
Artist & Song 2016	Water of Life Project / Water of Life
Host Venue	-

## Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist/Song	Russia did not take part in ESC 2017
Finishing Position	Russia did not take part in ESC 2017

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist (Age)	<b>Irina Brodić (13) &amp; Jana Paunović (12)</b>
Title (Serbian)	<b>Ceo svet je naš</b>
Title (English)	<b>The World is Ours</b>
Language	Serbian
Composers	Ognjen Cvekić, Lejla Hot, Irina Brodić & Jana Paunović

Artist Profile	<p><b>Irina</b> comes to us fresh from the world of musical theatre as earlier this year, she took the title role in a production of 'Annie'. As well as being a talented singer Irina is also an award-winning pianist, and is no stranger to music competitions, in March she performed at the Berlin International Music Festival. She is from the small western town of Šabac.</p> <p><b>Jana</b> is from Belgrade and was a contestant on the children's singing competition 'Pinkove Zvezdice' in the show's second year back in 2014. During her time on the show, she competed against Serbia's JESC representative from 2015 Lena Stamenkovic. Jana also appeared with Irina in 'Annie'.</p>
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Song Description	A quirky pop song, with a retro vibe. Styled for the national final in 20's style outfits and sung in tight vocal harmony.
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Selection Process	National Final: Three acts competed for the ticket to Tbilisi, with 100% of the decision left in the hands of a jury.
Date Announced	Artist Announcement: 28 <sup>th</sup> September Song Reveal: 29 <sup>th</sup> September

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest History

Debut	2006
Years Competed	2006-2010, 2014 – present
No. of JESC (incl 2017)	9
Best Position	3 <sup>rd</sup> (2007 & 2010)
Finishing Position 2016	17 <sup>th</sup>
Artist & Song 2016	Dunja Jeličić / U la la la
Host Venue	-

## Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist/Song	Tijana Bogićević / In Too Deep
Finishing Position	NQ

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist (Age)	<b>Anastasiya Baginska (12)</b>
Title (English)	<b>Don't Stop</b>
Language	Ukrainian/English
Composers	Ekateryna Komar & Anastasiya Baginska

Artist Profile	Anastasiya has been performing on stage from the age of five. She has a strong and beautiful voice and has represented her country in international music competitions and she has brought many awards and victories to Ukraine. She has collaborated with many other Ukrainian artists, including recently with 2016 ESC winner Jamala. Anastasiya believes there should always be a place in your life for miracles to happen.
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Song Description	A song of self-empowerment and self-belief to never stop striving to achieve your best life. The heavy strings in the track compliment Anastasiya's powerful lyrics and the violin accents towards the end of the song really makes you stop and take notice.
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Selection Process	National Final: Ten acts performed, with the winner being selected via a 50/50 jury/televote split.
Date Announced	25 <sup>th</sup> August

## Junior Eurovision Song Contest History

Debut	2006
Years Competed	2006 – present
No. of JESC (incl 2017)	12
Best Position	1 <sup>st</sup> (2012)
Finishing Position 2016	14 <sup>th</sup>
Artist & Song 2016	Sofia Rol / Planet Craves for Love
Host Venue	Kyiv 2009, Kyiv 2013

## Eurovision Song Contest 2017

Artist/Song	O Torvald / Time
Finishing Position	24 <sup>th</sup>

# Junior Eurovision 2017 Facts & Figures:

## Who's coming to Tbilisi?

- 16 Nations (one fewer than 2016, with two withdrawals and one return):
  - Albania, Armenia, Australia, Belarus, Cyprus, Georgia, Ireland, Italy, FYR Macedonia, Malta, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Serbia, Ukraine

## Who's singing?

- Male Soloists: Armenia, Georgia, Malta
- Female Soloists: Australia, Belarus, Cyprus, Ireland, Italy, FYR Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Ukraine
- Duos or Groups: The Netherlands, Serbia

## How old are the performers?

- 9: Armenia
- 10: Albania, Malta
- 11: Portugal, Ireland
- 12: Georgia, The Netherlands (Niels), Serbia (Jana), Ukraine
- 13: Australia, Cyprus, Italy, The Netherlands (Ian), Serbia (Irina)
- 14: Belarus, FYR Macedonia, Poland, The Netherlands (Max & Jannes), Russia,

## How were they chosen?

- Internal Selection: Armenia, Australia, Cyprus, Georgia, Italy, FYR Macedonia, Netherlands, Serbia
- National Final: Albania, Belarus, Ireland, Poland, Russia, Ukraine
- Partial National Final (Public Artist Selection, Internal Song Selection): Malta, Portugal

## What language will the song be performed in? (Languages may change by the time they reach the JESC stage):

- English: Australia
- Bilingual: Armenia, Cyprus, Italy, FYR Macedonia, Malta, The Netherlands, Russia, Ukraine
- Language Other than English: Belarus, Georgia, Ireland, Poland, Portugal, Poland, Serbia

## How many songs this year were written (at least partially) by the performer?

- 5: Belarus, Ireland, Italy, Russia, Serbia, Ukraine

## How many had previously performed in a National Final (not counting their 2017 victory)?

















- Ukraine: 2016: "Miy sviť", 2nd place.

## How many had taken part in non-Eurovision-affiliated TV talent shows or other major international musical festivals?

- Armenia:
  - 2016: New Wave Junior: 2nd place
- Belarus
  - 2016: New Wave Junior: 1st place, as a member of Trio Ey'va (alongside San Marino's 2015 JESC representative, Kamilla Ismailova)
- Georgia
  - 2017: X Factor Georgia: Finalist
- Russia:
  - 2014: Golos Deti (The Voice Junior): Eliminated from team Dima Bilan during Battle Rounds. This was the same season as 2014's Russian representative Alisa Kozhikina as well as 2017's Eurovision singer for Bulgaria, Kristian Kostov.
  - 2014: New Wave Junior: 2nd place



## Quick Reference & Score Chart

			
<b>Albania</b> Ana Kodra	<b>Armenia</b> Misha	<b>Australia</b> Isabella Clarke	<b>Belarus</b> Helena Meraai
			
<b>Cyprus</b> Nicole Nicolaou	<b>Georgia</b> Grigol Kipsidze	<b>Ireland</b> Muireanne McDonnell	<b>Italy</b> Maria Iside Fiore
			
<b>Macedonia</b> Mina Blažev	<b>Malta</b> Gianluca Cilia	<b>The Netherlands</b> Fource	<b>Poland</b> Alicja Rega
			
<b>Portugal</b> Mariana Venâncio	<b>Russia</b> Polina Bogusevich	<b>Serbia</b> Irina Brodić & Jana Paunović	<b>Ukraine</b> Anastasiya Baginska

Country	Artist	Song	Score	Position
Albania	Ana Kodra	Mos ma prekni pemën		
Armenia	Misha	Boomerang		
Australia	Isabella Clarke	Speak Up		
Belarus	Helena Meraai	I Am the One		
Cyprus	Nicole Nicolaou	I Wanna Be a Star		
Georgia	Grigol Kipsidze	Voice of the Heart		
Ireland	Murieann McDonnell	Súile Glasa		
Italy	Maria Iside Fiore	Scelgo (My Choice)		
Macedonia	Mina Blažev	Dancing Through Life		
Malta	Gianluca Cilia	Dawra Tond		
Netherlands	Fource	Love Me		
Poland	Alicja Rega	Mój dom		
Portugal	Mariana Venâncio	Youtuber		
Russia	Polina Bogusevich	Krylya		
Serbia	Irina Brodić & Jana Paunović	Ceo svet je nás		
Ukraine	Anastasiya Baginska	Ne zupyniat		

